

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated 4 February 2003. Responsive to the rejections made by the Examiner in that Office Action, Claims 1 and 11-14 are now amended, and Claim 16 is newly-inserted, for further prosecution with the other pending Claims. It is believed that with such amendment and insertion of Claims, there is a further clarification of Applicant's invention for this Patent Application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by either the Hahn, et al. reference or the Wu reference. In setting forth these rejections, the Examiner specifically referenced FIGS. 1-3 of Hahn, et al. and FIGS. 1-7 of Wu.

As newly-amended independent Claim 1 now more clearly recites, Applicant's transformer apparatus is one which includes among its features "a transformer circuit disposed in...[a] main body for converting power from a source to predetermined form," as well as "a plurality of connectors electrically connected to said transformer circuit for passage of the predetermined form of power provided by said transformer circuit unit therethrough." As the Claim further clarifies, "said connectors...[are] operable to simultaneously connect a plurality of devices to said transformer circuit unit."

Such features are nowhere disclosed by either of the cited references. While they are each directed to power supply devices, neither of the cited Hahn, et al. and Wu

references discloses anything more than a single connection for passing the converted form of power. Hence, neither of the references anywhere discloses “a plurality of connectors for passage of the predetermined form of power provided by...[a] transformer circuit unit therethrough,” much less such plurality of “connectors...operable to simultaneously connect a plurality of devices to said transformer circuit unit,” as newly-amended independent Claim 1 now more clearly recites.

Indeed, both Hahn, et al. and Wu focus entirely upon the input plug portion of their respective power supplies, hardly even mentioning the means by which the converted supply output is provided to the device being powered. Admittedly, both Hahn, et al. and Wu address the need for accommodating various socket configurations with their input plug portions. The accommodating measures prescribed by each reference, even then, necessitate the removal and replacement of the plug portion with one of several variously configured plug modules - for each module's use necessarily exclusive of all others. Nowhere does either reference even contemplate the simultaneous connection of devices to the given power supply, much less to the provision on the power supply of a “simultaneously” connectable “plurality of connectors electrically connected to...[a] transformer circuit unit for passage of...[a] predetermined form of power provided by said transformer circuit unit therethrough,” as newly-amended independent Claim 1 now more clearly recites.

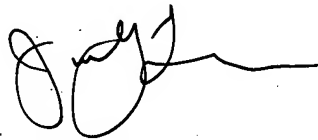
It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that neither the Hahn, et al. nor Wu reference discloses the unique combination of elements now more clearly recited by

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Applicant's pending Claims for the purposes and objectives disclosed in the subject Patent Application. The other reference cited by the Examiner but not used in the rejection has been considered, but is believed to be further remote from Applicant's transformer device when patentability considerations are taken into account.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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